



URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITTLESEY

**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1970

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OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health :

D.C.Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector :

D.A.Bamford, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Surveyor & Additional  
Public Health Inspector :

J.B.Stocks

OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL


Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
9, Queen Street,  
Whittlesey.

Telephone Number

Whittlesey 2224

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	23,362
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,638
Rateable Value (at 31.12.70)	£393,998
Product of 1d rate (at 31.3.70)	£1,571.80
Population (Registrar General's Figures)	11,200



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TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I wish to present my Annual Report on the health of the people of Whittlesey for the year 1970.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my pleasure in being associated with such co-operative and efficient colleagues in the Council's Office. The Clerk, Mr. Harold Kewish, with his extensive knowledge of local government and wealth of experience, has always been readily available, and over the year has given me invaluable help. My colleagues in the Health Department, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Stocks and Mrs. Tyers, have continued to give the high standard of care to their varying tasks that they have given in years gone past. I am deeply grateful to them for all the assistance they have given.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient servant,

D.C. LOGAN

Medical Officer of Health.





## VITAL STATISTICS

### LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	84	73	157
Illegitimate	5	4	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total:	89	77	166
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### Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	14.8
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	14.8
England and Wales	-	16.0

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births 5

### STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total:	2	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

### Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	18
England and Wales	-	13

Three stillbirths occurred during the year giving a rate of 18 per 1,000 live and stillbirths compared with 13 per 1,000 for England and Wales as a whole. Although higher than the national rate, it must be seen against the rate for last year, when there were no stillbirths. The causes, where such could be discovered from the certificates, were not such as could be prevented in the present state of our knowledge.

### TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	86	74	160
Illegitimate	5	4	9
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Total:	91	78	169
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INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under one year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total:	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	12
England and Wales	-	18

Only two deaths of children under one year occurred in 1970. Both were associated with marked prematurity, and in one case was associated with severe illness of the mother.

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births 13

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births 0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	12
England and Wales	-	12

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	30
England and Wales	-	30

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	147

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	0.18



<u>DEATHS</u>	(ALL CAUSES)	<u>Male</u>	66	<u>Female</u>	50	<u>Total</u>	116
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Death Rate - per 1,000 estimated population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	10.4
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	11.6
England and Wales	-	11.7

Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied by the Registrar General for 1970.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Cholera	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Bacillary Dysentery and amoebiasis	-	-
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	-
Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis	1	-
Other tuberculosis	-	-
Plague	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	-	-
Typhus and other rickettsioses	-	-
Malaria	-	-
Syphilis and its sequelae	-	-
All other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm intestine	2	-
Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	3	-
Malignant neoplasm breast	-	2
Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	1
Malignant neoplasm of buccal cavity and pharynx	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of larynx	-	-
Other malignant neoplasms	-	2
Malignant neoplasm of prostate	3	-
Leukaemia	1	-
Benign neoplasms and neoplasms of unspecified nature	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	-	-
Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency	-	-
Other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	1	-
Anaemias	1	-
Other diseases of blood and blood forming organs	-	-
Mental disorders	-	-
Meningitis	-	-
Multiple sclerosis	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system	1	1
Active rheumatic fever	-	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	1
Hypertensive disease	-	2
Ischaemic heart disease	15	10
Other forms of heart disease	2	2





Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied  
by the Registrar General for 1970 (continued)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Cerebrovascular disease	5	7
Other diseases of the circulatory system	7	2
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	5	8
Bronchitis, emphysema	3	-
Asthma	-	-
Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	-
Peptic ulcer	1	1
Appendicitis	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	-
Cirrhosis of liver	1	-
Other diseases of the digestive system	2	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	-	-
Abortion	-	-
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium	-	-
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	-	1
Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	-	1
Congenitive anomalies	-	-
Birth injury, difficult labour and other anoxic and hypoxic conditions	-	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
All other accidents	3	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	-
All other external causes	-	-
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Total:	66	50
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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. Both were in men over 50. It is remarkable that the incidence of this disease has shifted to the older age groups.

Cases of measles still continue to occur, although the campaign to immunise children has now got well under way, and is well accepted by the public.

### NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1970 :-

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	7	16	23
Infective Hepatitis	2	3	5
Whooping Cough	2	2	4
Tuberculosis (Pul.)	2	-	2
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	1	1
Acute Meningitis	1	-	1
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Total:	15	22	37
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TO

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my seventeenth Annual Report for the Urban District covering the year 1970.

Steady progress has been maintained in dealing with unfit dwellings either by Closing/Demolition Orders or Improvement Grants. Since the Council decided to give Discretionary Grants owners are enabled to carry out much more extensive works of repair, in several cases properties which would otherwise have had to be condemned have been preserved.

From a public health aspect new estates create their own problems, these are mainly reports of condensation and 'soot' and fumes from oil fired central heating units. Advice was given in these cases as to how the problems could be overcome. In connection with the central heating units the fault usually arose from inadequate servicing of the appliance or use of the wrong fuel.

I have again to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council and Committees for their support and to thank the Clerk of the Council for his help throughout the year. The efforts of Mr. Stocks have enabled the work in the Health Department to continue as before and Mrs. Tyers has, as always, carried out her work efficiently and pleasantly.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D.A. BAMFORD.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The South Lines Water Board continues to supply water to a high standard to the district, the figure for this year being 155,492,000 million gallons, an increase of 7.4% on the 1969 quantity.

Bacteriological samples have been taken which have proved satisfactory.

### CARAVANS

Work has commenced on the remaining multiple site which was unsatisfactory and this will provide fifteen caravan standings and facilities to a good standard.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The detailed preparation of the extension to the sewage works and the relief sewers by Messrs. Kershaw & Kaufmann of London is now almost complete and it is hoped to have the work started early in 1971.

### NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION

The Council employs a Contractor to empty pails, vaults and cesspools at properties which cannot be connected to the sewer. The contract in 1970 covered 161 pails which were emptied three times in every fortnight. Septic tanks and vaults are emptied free on request once in any period of six months.

The conversion of properties from existing pails and vaults still progresses satisfactorily.





## REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse is collected by direct labour and two vehicles are used. The town area is collected by a Shelvoke & Drewry 16/18 cu.yd. vehicle with compressor which is driven by the foreman and has four loaders. The outside areas are collected weekly and more isolated dwellings have a three weekly collection.

Routine servicing and washing of the vehicles is done by the drivers. Repairs are carried out by local garages.

The refuse collection service is still considerably over extended. Detailed Organisation and Method Study of the service by the Cambs. & Isle of Ely County Council staff has been undertaken and it is hoped that a suitable bonus scheme will enable the Council to maintain or even improve its present collection.

Number of bins collected during year	193,474
Town round weekly average	2,202
Outside area weekly round	1,520

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

The refuse disposal tip is situated in New Road not far from the centre of the town but away from the dwellings.

The tip is open for the reception of rubbish and two men are employed part time to carry out levelling. By accepting rubbish it is hoped to prevent indiscriminate tipping of unwanted articles in dykes, grass verges, etc.

Being a potential source of rat infestation regular poison baiting was carried out and a good measure of control achieved.

The Council's existing tip is rapidly becoming filled and a portion of land opposite the present tip has been purchased and it is likely that this will be used towards the end of 1971.





## OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES

Routine visits are continuing to be carried out to registered premises.

Accidents, in the main due to carelessness on the part of the operative, still occurs.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

## SWIMMING BATHS

The Council has an open air heated swimming pool in the Manor Field, Station Road. The pool is 110 feet long and 42 feet wide. The manager carries out tests twice daily, more frequently in times of heavy loads, and by careful control of the continuous filtration and chlorination plant a satisfactory standard was maintained. Bacteriological samples of the water were also satisfactory.

## PETROLEUM INSPECTIONS

Several petroleum installations have been renewed or enlarged within the year and the standard of installations remains satisfactory.



## INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made in 1970 :-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notices</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Cesspool, pail and vault work	48	-	-
Drainage	57	6	-
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	30	4	-
Slaughterhouses and Butchers Shops	162	-	-
Food Shops	115	-	-
Restaurants	12	-	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises	-	-	-
Housing	970	37	-
Nuisances	52	12	-
Rats and Mice	57	-	-
Caravan Sites	16	-	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	30	-	-

All notices served were complied with.

## DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

Several reports of wasps were made and were successfully dealt with.



## HOUSING

Number of houses erected during 1970 :-

By Local Authority	22 Houses
By Private Enterprise	101 Houses and Bungalows

24 applications were made for Improvement Grants, 22 of which were approved and received grants.

14 Notices of Time & Place to consider the condition of 14 dwellings were served in the year and the following action was taken :-

Demolition Orders	5
Closing Orders	9

4 dwellings were demolished and 6 families were re-housed from unfit houses.

## HOUSING ACT, 1969, Part III RENTS

Two Applications for Qualification Certificates have been received and two Provisional Qualification Certificates have been issued.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made (under the Factories Act) for 1970

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	53	20	-	-
Other Premises	11	9	-	-
TOTAL :	66	31	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of Cases in which Defects were found		Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted	
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL :	1	1	-	-	-

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 & 111

There are no outworkers in the district.





## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### ICE-CREAM

There are 47 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream; all the ice-cream being pre-packed. The only loose ice-cream sold in the area is sold from vehicles.

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in the area.

### CONDEMNED FOOD

Four certificates were issued covering 1,437 items of foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers. Condemned food is disposed of by burying in the Council's refuse tip. It was not found necessary to seize any diseased or unsound food.

The large increase in the number of items was due to a supermarket fire late in the year.

### FOOD PREPARATION

Premises registered for the making up of food.	11
Fish Friers	3
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	2
Other food shops	39
Public Houses	32

Satisfactory food premises and food handling are of prime importance and it is essential for food handlers to learn the correct methods of dealing with modern food packaging, particularly frozen foods.



## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one modern privately owned licensed slaughterhouse in the area. It is well maintained and is capable of handling a much larger throughput than is being dealt with at present.

## KNACKER'S YARD

The knacker's yard has now been discontinued for a period of 12 months and it is expected that the Council will ratify its closure at its meeting in January, 1971.

## MEAT INSPECTION

All animals killed in the slaughterhouse are inspected mainly involving overtime.



## MEAT INSPECTION

### Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	71	-	-	127	97	-
Number inspected	71	-	-	127	97	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	3	5	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	4.22	-	-	2.36	5.15	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.03	-
<u>Cystercercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-





## MEAT INSPECTION

### Bovines

1 liver fluke	14 lbs.
1 liver abscesses	14 lbs.
Extensive bruising	10 lbs.

### Sheep

3 livers fluke	7½ lbs.
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### Pigs

1 head tuberculosis	14 lbs.
1 head abscesses	14 lbs.
2 hearts inflammation	3 lbs.
1 lungs congestion	4 lbs.
1 liver necrosis	4½ lbs.





